

Jeff Johnson's ...

MATURE-READER'S

Nurture the Devil

\$2.50 in U.S. \$2.95 in CAN...

#3



S. Johnson 94

Parau na te Varua i no

Fantagraphics
Books

"I KNOW MORE THAN I CAN EXPRESS IN WORDS, AND THE LITTLE I CAN EXPRESS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED, HAD I NOT KNOWN MORE."

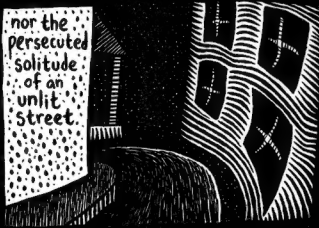
-Vladimir Nabokov



I'D
LIKE TO
TELL YOU SOMETHING.



Fear is not an accident.



nor the
persecuted
solitude
of an
unlit
street.



IT'S AN APOLOGY FOR
DEVIATION.

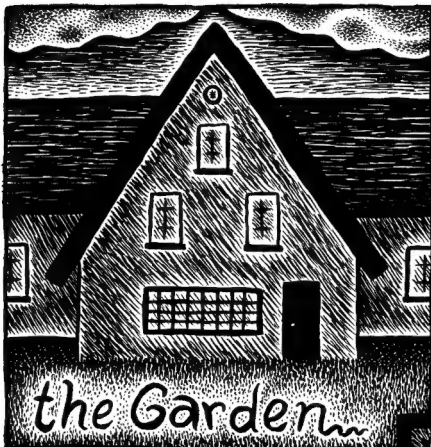


AN ANTHEM
FOR
MONSTROSITY.



an antidote
for motivation.

HELLO, THE COVER OF THIS ISSUE IS A COPY OF PAUL GAUGUIN'S 'PARAHATE VARUA INO' (WORDS OF THE DEVIL), 1892. IF YOU'VE WRITTEN ME RECENTLY AND HAD THE MAIL RETURNED, BLAME THE POST OFFICE IN ATHENS FOR FORWARDING MY MAIL TO A NONEXISTENT ADDRESS. PLEASE ADDRESS ALL MAIL TO: JEFF JOHNSON, 166 FERNLEAF LN., MARIETTA GA, 30068. ALL MINI-COMICS PREVIOUSLY AVAILABLE ARE NOW OUT OF PRINT. I WILL BE OFFERING SOME NEW MATERIAL IN 1995, SO SEND FOR INFO IN JAN. NOW FOR THE OFFICIAL STUFF: NURTURE THE DEVIL #3, NOV/DEC 1994. NTD WAS PUBLISHED THRICE BY FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS, INC. AND IS COPYRIGHT © 1994 THEM. ALL MATERIAL IS © 1994 JEFF JOHNSON (OBVIOUSLY AN ALIAS). USE NO PART W/O PERMISSION. THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. ALL CHARACTERS ARE PLAYED BY ACTORS WHO ARE WELL ABOVE 18. YEAH, THEY'RE ALL REALLY OLD-- WE JUST HAVE A GREAT MAKEUP MAN. TAKE A BOW, FAT MORIARITY. THIS PROJECT WAS FUNDED BY MY ANONYMOUS BENEFACTOR (PST-- IT'S GARY GROTH). THANKS TO ALL INVOLVED. 48, AGAIN AND AGAIN. THERE ARE SO MANY GREAT COMICS OUT THERE THESE DAYS. GODFIND THEM. SEND LOTS OF \$ TO THEIR RESPECTIVE CREATORS. HOW'S THAT FOR AN ALL-INCLUSIVE PLUG? MONKEY HATE COMICS, 01/94; FIRST PRINTING, NOV/OCT 1994. FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS, 7563 LAKE CITY WAY NE, SEATTLE, WA 98115. WATCH FOR 'DANGER IN THE GARDEN'-- A FILM DIRECTED BY STANLEY KUBRICK, BASED ON MY SCREENPLAY, AND KING LINDA BYDER AS 'LILY', DREW BARRYMORE AS 'DANIS', CAMILLE PAGLIA AS 'ROSE', AND, UH... JUST SOME OTHER PEOPLE FOR THE REST. COMING SOON! FAREWELL, MY CRUEL DARLINGS.



the Garden

BYE, DAISY; BYE,
BOYS. COME BACK
ANYTIME.

BYE, LILY--
TELL MARCUS
I HAD FUN!

3. flowers



"TELL MARCUS
I HAD FUN."
YEAH, I'LL
BET.

Jeff Johnson 1994



~ (continued from previous two issues) ~



YEAH, DADDY, I KNOW--
I'LL UNTIE YOU--
YOU NEED TO GET
DINNER READY NOW...



NOW GO AND BRING MARCUS
FROM THE BASEMENT AND
GET PAUL FROM UPSTAIRS--
YOU DID PUT HIM IN MY
OLD ROOM, DIDN'T YOU?

YES, PRINCESS...

WELL, GO GET THOSE
TWO PESTS SO THEY
CAN HELP YOU WITH
DINNER. I'LL BE UP IN
MY ROOM, WAITING...

MARCUS?

DAD...

I
HATE
YOU.





WHAT ABOUT
"PRINCESS"?
I THOUGHT
SHE NEEDED
FEEDING...

SHE DOESN'T
HAVE TO KNOW.
PLEASE, MARCUS,
THIS IS
IMPORTANT
...

OKAY,
OKAY.
LET'S GO...

BUT WHY ARE
YOU SO WORRIED?
I DON'T
UNDERSTAND...


I'LL EXPLAIN
ON THE
WAY.



MARCUS,
HOW DID I TELL
YOU YOUR
MOTHER
DIED?


HUH? IT WAS
A SUICIDE, OVER
THE GRIEF OF
GRANDFATHER'S DEATH.
SHE DROWNED HERSELF
IN THE CREEK OUT
HERE. YOU KNOW...

ALIVE, BUT
VERY DIFFERENT
FROM THE MOTHER
YOU REMEMBER. THIS
MAN CHANGED HER—
CORRUPTED HER
SOMEHOW...



IT'S TIME YOU
KNEW THE TRUTH, MARCUS.
I LIED TO YOU. YOUR MOTHER
LEFT ME FOR ANOTHER
MAN.

WHAT?
YOU MEAN SHE'S
ALIVE?



BELIEVE ME, MY LIE IS
FAR EASIER TO DEAL WITH
THAN THE TRUTH OF YOUR
MOTHER'S TRANSFORMATION.

SHE IS WORSE THAN DEAD.

I HAD NO INTENTION OF
SUBJECTING YOU CHILDREN
TO THAT. BUT I SUPPOSE
I COULDN'T KEEP IT
A SECRET FOREVER.

WHY IS IT DANGER-
OUS OUT HERE ALL
OF A SUDDEN? WE
WERE OKAY THIS
AFTERNOON...

THE SUN IS GOING
DOWN. THE OLD
MAN HAS HIS
MINIONS, AND
THEY PREFER
THE NIGHT.

OLD MAN?

I'M SORRY. I'M
GETTING AHEAD
OF MYSELF. YOUR
MOTHER AND THE
OLD MAN SHE
LEFT ME FOR
STILL LIVE OUT
HERE, AT YOUR
GRANDFATHER'S
OLD PLACE.
THEY KEEP TO
THEMSELVES,
AND UNLESS I
HAD REASON
TO SUSPECT
THAT PAUL
IS OUT HERE,
I WOULD
CERTAINLY
HAVE KEPT
MY DISTANCE.

Hee
Hee

WELL, I HOPE
I'M NOT
LEADING US
INTO DANGER
NEEDLESSLY--

I ONLY HOPE
WE CAN GET
TO PAUL BEFORE
THEY DO...

WE
DIDN'T
COME
THIS FAR
LAST
NIGHT?

LAST
NIGHT?
YOU WERE
OUT HERE
LAST
NIGHT?

UH... I GUESS I SHOULD'VE TOLD YOU-- PAUL
AND I SNUCK OUT, AND I THINK WE
SAW THOSE "MINIONS."

OH,
GREAT!

GOD DAMN IT,
MARCUS-- YOU HAVE
NO IDEA WHAT YOU
MAY HAVE SET
IN MOTION...

HURRY UP, NOW--
THIS IS URGENT!

Mmm!

WHAT? OH,
HELL...

Hee
Hee

ALL RIGHT, YOU
FILTHY DEMONS--
TAKE US TO YOUR
LEADER!

Hee Hee

Hee
Hee

WHAT'S SO
FUNNY?

OH, YEAH--
GRAND-
FATHER'S
HOUSE...

I VAGUELY
REMEMBER THIS
CREEPY PLACE.

Hee
Hee

IT USED TO
GIVE ME BAD
DREAMS.

DON'T BE
AFRAID,
MARCUS.

KIND OF
LOOKS LIKE
A CHURCH

AH,
YOU'RE
VERY PERCEP-
TIVE, DEAR
BOY.

IT IS A CHURCH
--AND YOU'RE
JUST IN TIME
FOR MASS!

You...

I MYSELF
SHALL PLAY THE
PART OF MINI-
STER AND PRIEST
OF OUR LITTLE
CONGREGATION.

GREETINGS,
EDWARD SUN-
DERS. I TAKE
IT THAT THIS
IS MARCUS..?

How...

YOU ARE CONSIDERABLY
OLDER NOW. THE
LAST TIME I SAW
YOU WAS--WHAT
IS IT, EIGHT
YEARS AGO?
YOU MUST BE
ABOUT EIGHTEEN.
THEN YOU DO
REMEMBER
YOUR DEAR
OLD GRAND-
FATHER ON
YOUR MOTHER'S
SIDE, DON'T YOU?
DOMINIC BASTARD
IS THE NAME..

I THOUGHT YOU
WERE DEAD!

I CAN
SEE THAT
OUR SERVICE
TODAY WILL BE
VERY INFORM-
ATIVE TO
YOU BOTH.

SAY HELLO
TO YOUR
SOON-TO-BE
SISTER,
MARCUS.

OH, MY. HASN'T YOUR FATHER
PROPERLY EXPLAINED ANYTHING
TO YOU BOYS?

PUT HIM ON THE CROSS, MY
CHILDREN. "PAULA" IS
EAGERLY AWAITING THE
SECOND PHASE OF HER
SURGERY. AREN'T YOU,
DEAR GIRL?

Y-YES...

OF COURSE
YOU ARE.
PAULA IS
APPROACHING
HER THIRTEENTH
BIRTHDAY, AND
SHE WILL FACE
MANY VERY
INTERESTING
CHANGES...

YOU REMEM-
BER LILITH'S
THIRTEENTH
BIRTHDAY, DON'T
YOU, EDWARD?

LEAVE LILY OUT OF THIS,
YOU BASTARD!

OH, BUT "PRINCESS"
IS A VERY IMPORTANT
PART OF OUR CEREMONY.
SHE'LL ARRIVE SOON.
ALL IN GOOD TIME.

THE BASTARDS HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN STRONG.
YOU SHOULD HAVE TAKEN
THAT INTO ACCOUNT
WHEN YOU MARRIED
INTO OUR FAMILY.

A BUNCH OF
INCESTUOUS
FREAKS, YOU
MEAN!

SHE TRIED TO ESCAPE
YOUR INFLUENCE, YOU
MONSTER- WHY
COULDN'T YOU HAVE
LEFT HER ALONE?

BECAUSE I'M
HER FATHER, AND
I WAS AROUND A
LONG TIME BEFORE
YOU SHOWED UP!

AND THE CORRECT
PRONUNCIATION IS
BASTARD-- ACCENT
ON THE LAST
SYLLABLE.

A MORE
DISTIN-
GUISHED
FAMILY NAME
THAN SUNDERS,
SURELY, KNOWN
FOR THEIR WEAK,
SPINELESS MEN.

FOR SHAME,
EDWARD, YOU
NEVER RESPECTED
OUR TRADITIONS.

HOW COULD YOU
EXPECT ROSE TO
STAY WITH YOU IF
YOU COULDN'T
ACCEPT HER
FAMILY?

WE HAVE ALWAYS SHARED A SPECIAL
BOND... AND BESIDES, WE HAVE
OUR OWN CHILDREN TO CONSIDER.

HOW DO YOU THINK THEY
FELT WHEN YOU REFUSED
TO LET THEM IN YOUR HOME?

I DON'T CARE WHAT THESE
IN-BRED ABOMINATIONS FELT!
I DOUBT THEY FEEL ANYTHING!



ROSALIND
IS NOT YOUR
ANYTHING, FOOL.
SHE'LL BE OUT SOON,
DON'T WORRY.

BE PATIENT. MY
BOYS WILL GET EVERYTHING
READY, AND OUR CEREMONY
CAN BEGIN...

"JUST IN TIME FOR OUR FINAL GUEST
TO ARRIVE, I HOPE."



WHAT'S TAKING
THEM SO LONG?



FUCK--I'M HUNGRY!
I BET THOSE LAZY-
ASS BOYS ARE
SLOWING HIM
DOWN!

DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO NAG
JUST TO MAKE THINGS
RUN SMOOTHLY AROUND
HERE?



I GUESS
THAT'S MY
FUNCTION,
THOUGH--
BEING A
BITCH.

THERE
ARE WORSE
JOBS...



DADDY!



DADDY?



WHERE IS
EVERYONE?



WHERE COULD
THEY HAVE...

GONE?



SHIT.



WHY DO I
HAVE THE
SINKING
FEELING THAT
THEY'RE SOMEWHERE
OUT HERE?

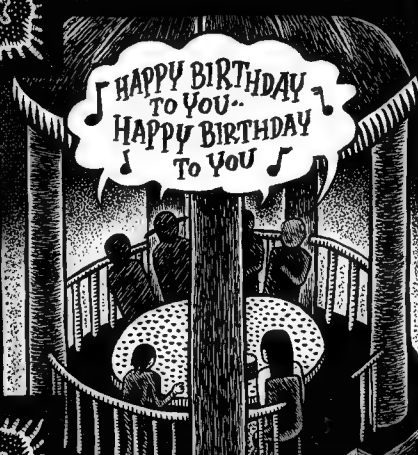
AND WHY SHOULD THAT FILL ME WITH SUCH DREAD? IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE--I HAVEN'T BEEN BACK HERE SINCE-- SINCE MOTHER DIED, I GUESS...



"GRANDFATHER WAS THERE, TOO. HE DIED LATER THAT AFTERNOON. MOTHER WAS SO UPSET, SHE KILLED HERSELF."



MY THIRTEENTH BIRTHDAY--WE WERE CELEBRATING IN THE GAZEBO BY THE CREEK...







I MADE A JEWELRY BOX FOR YOU.

WOW!
THANKS,
MARCUS.



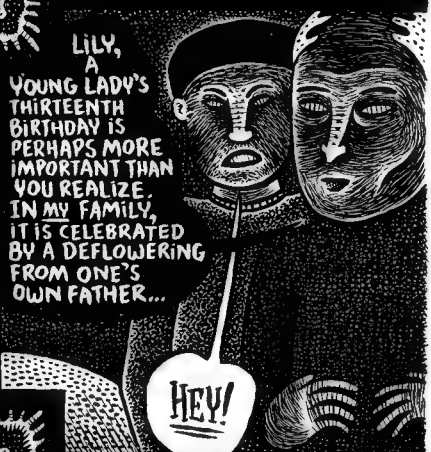
I MADE THIS DRESS FOR YOU, LILY.

THANK YOU, MOTHER.



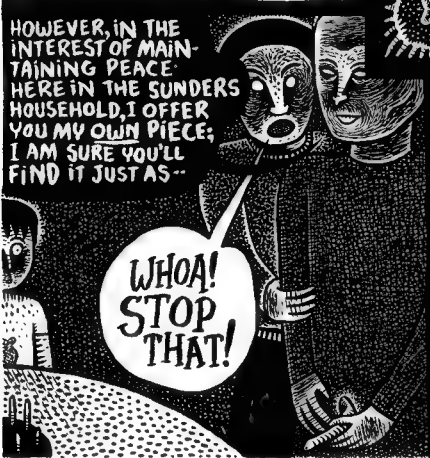
I, UH...
I WANT YOU
TO GO SHOPPING
FOR YOURSELF...
BUY SOMETHING
NICE.

OKAY THANKS,
DADDY...



LILY,
A
YOUNG LADY'S
THIRTEENTH
BIRTHDAY IS
PERHAPS MORE
IMPORTANT THAN
YOU REALIZE.
IN MY FAMILY,
IT IS CELEBRATED
BY A DEFLOWERING
FROM ONE'S
OWN FATHER...

HEY!



HOWEVER, IN THE
INTEREST OF MAIN-
TAINING PEACE
HERE IN THE SUNDER
HOUSEHOLD, I OFFER
YOU MY OWN PIECE;
I AM SURE YOU'LL
FIND IT JUST AS--

WHOA!
STOP
THAT!



THAT'S ENOUGH
OUT OF YOU, YOU
FUCKING OLD
PERVERT--
C'MON, LET'S GO.

Hee
Hee

MOTHER WENT OFF WITH GRANDFATHER TO HIS HOUSE, AND AFTER A WHILE, FATHER WENT TO BRING HER BACK...



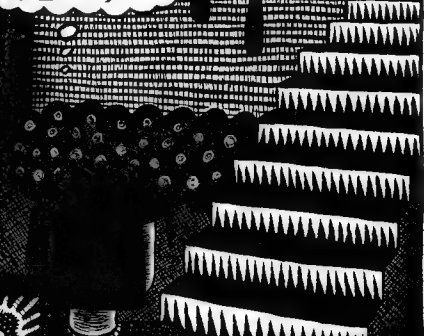
HE CAME BACK ALL PALE, SAYING THAT A TERRIBLE THING HAD HAPPENED. HE SAID NOW I WAS THE 'LADY OF THE HOUSE' AND STARTED CALLING ME 'PRINCESS'.



I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK AT FIRST, I JUST WANTED MOTHER BACK. I WANTED TO SEE WHERE SHE'D DIED, AT LEAST...



I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE THAT IT ALL HAPPENED SO QUICKLY - THAT DADDY DIDN'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT. BUT EVENTUALLY, I FORGOT THOSE QUESTIONS...



I LEARNED THAT IT WAS BETTER TO JUST PLAY MY ROLE AS 'PRINCESS.' IT AWAKENED A WHOLE NEW SIDE OF ME.



AND NOW-- I HAVE THE DISTINCT FEELING THAT MY REIGN IS ABOUT TO END.

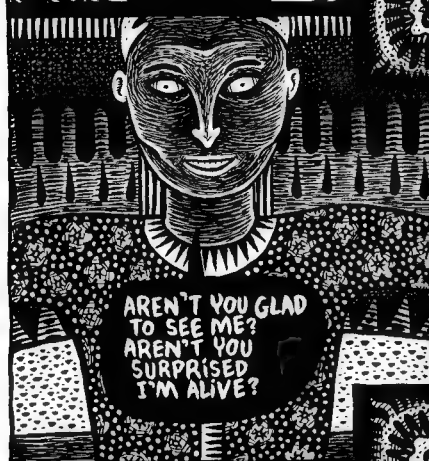




WELCOME, DEAR
GIRL-- NOW THE
CEREMONY CAN
BEGIN!



COME AND GIVE
YOUR GRANDFATHER
A KISS!



AREN'T YOU GLAD
TO SEE ME?
AREN'T YOU
SURPRISED
I'M ALIVE?



YOUR FATHER IS
HERE. HE HAS A
PRESENT FOR YOU...

IT'S ONE
YOU SHOULD
HAVE RECEIVED
LONG AGO...



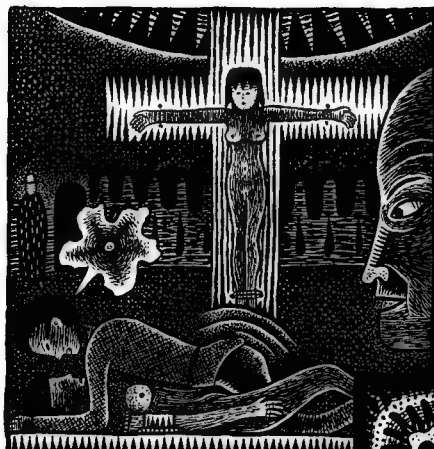
COME-- LAY DOWN
UPON THIS
COMFORTABLE
TABLE.

PLEASE--
I INSIST.

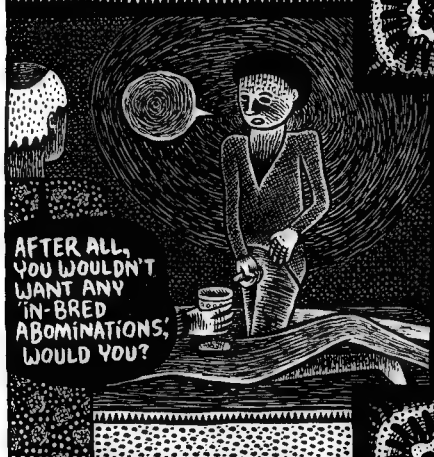
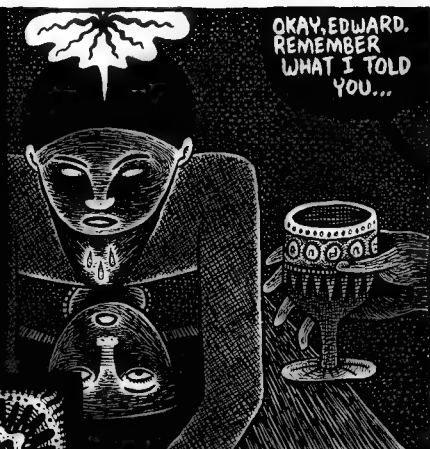


THERE YOU
GO. WHAT
A LOVELY,
AGREEABLE
CREATURE YOU
ARE.





OKAY, EDWARD.
REMEMBER
WHAT I TOLD
YOU...



AFTER ALL,
YOU WOULDN'T
WANT ANY
'IN-BRED
ABOMINATIONS',
WOULD YOU?



THERE, NOW--
EVERY LAST
DROP--
DON'T
MISS...



VERY GOOD...

OH,
GOD!

WHAT DID YOU THINK OF
OUR PERFORMERS,
ROSE?



ROSE!

MOM!



ROSE-- DON'T LISTEN
TO HIM! HE'S EVIL!
I LOVE YOU, ROSE!


NO MORE THAN I
EXPECTED FROM A VILE
SLUT AND A WEAK,
WORTHLESS MAN.

Hee Hee

Mom...




DO YOU
THINK
I CARE
ABOUT
YOUR PATHETIC
EXCUSES? I
KNOW THE
TRUTH ABOUT
YOU AND YOUR
'LOVE.'



MY FATHER
TAUGHT ME
LONG AGO
THAT IT'S A
TRANSPARENT
LIE MEANT TO
DISGUISE YOUR
TRUE MOTIVES.

LUST AND
HATRED.

FAMILY' MEANS
NOTHING...



MY SON,
YOU'VE DREAMT
ALL YOUR LIFE
OF BECOMING
A GIRL.

mommy...

AND NOW--

YOUR WISH
IS GRANTED
...




AS FOR YOU, MY
OTHER 'SON'--



ARE YOU ANY
HAPPIER NOW THAN
YOU WERE BEFORE?
NO, I DIDN'T THINK SO.

DRINK DOWN THE CONTENTS
OF THIS CHALICE--
THE COLLECTIVE
LUST AND HATRED
OF OUR 'FAMILY'...



YOU'RE SO
ANGRY-- WHAT
GOOD DOES IT
DO YOU?

YET, I HAVE HOPE
FOR YOU. THERE'S A
SIMPLE LESSON YOU MUST
LEARN TO BECOME A MAN--

BECAUSE THAT'S
THE ONLY
TRUE LOVE
THAT EXISTS
...



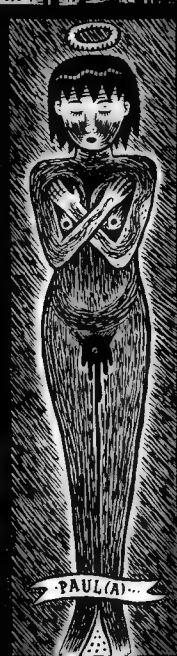
AND LEARN TO
LOVE THE TASTE
OF THIS BLOOD-
AND SEMEN
MIX--

END OF
PART
THREE

EPILOGUE:



WHAT IS HAPPENING?



PAUL(A)

MY CHILDREN!



I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS!



MY SONS!



NO!

MARCUS--I'M
CUTTING YOU
LOOSE.

ROSE--
THEY'RE
DEAD!

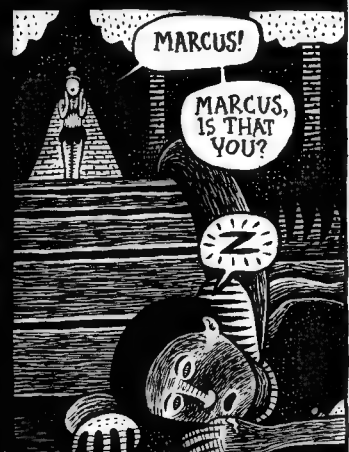
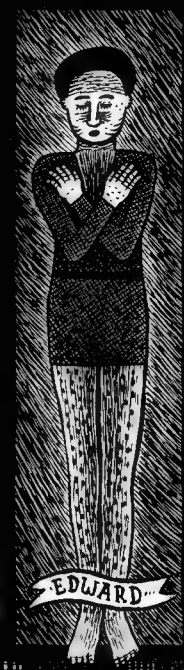
DEAD!

LILITH...

GO NOW--
HURRY--AND
DON'T FORGET...

CURSE
YOU,
BOY!

DAMN
YOU!



MARCUS- WHY
WO'N'T YOU SAY
ANYTHING?
SAY SOMETHING!

YEAH- COME OVER
TO THIS SIDE,
BIG BOY...

WE HAD FUN
YESTERDAY,
DIDN'T WE?

MARCUS- WHY DO
YOU LOOK
SO
STRANGE?
AND
WHERE'S
THAT
SMOKE
COMING
FROM?

DO YOU
SMELL
IT?

DO YOU--

ROSE

Ww!



